

Dear Representatives,

This is Rob Kokx again. I need to express my opinion and vote with regards to Bill 6430. Bill 6430, although it maybe drafted with the best intention of protecting our community from predators, molesters and bad guys has some fundamental flaws.

First, it IS impossible to enforce this law. One of the operating principles of the internet is that you can "live" on the internet ambiguously without anyone ever knowing who you are. You can access the internet globally from any PC that is connected. There is currently NO way to keep someone from being on the internet or limiting where they go on it.

Secondly, The database that is being used to define the citizens who are to be restricted is flawed. The intent of the Registry again is to keep the predators away from our citizens but the Sex Offender Registry does not segregate between predators and those who made a one time bad judgment decision. Bill 6430 would, at minimum, violate the rights of our citizens on the Registry who are clearly not predators.

On that topic, you can not judge who is a public threat and who is not from the names currently on the Registry based on their CSC level of offense or other details of their crime. The only way is to review the evaluation done by the trained specialist(s) who reviewed each individual case at the time of the court proceedings. Remember, our current law DOES NOT give our judges the ability to judge who is a threat to the public and who is not, ALL go onto the registry.

I would like to make an analogy to this situation.

Lets say we create a system where we keep track of all those that are convicted of drunk driving. The idea, of course, is that we keep a close eye on alcoholics to hopefully protect the public from these individuals. Now, we are in a hurry to get this going because it sounds like a great idea and we have, in general, public opinion on our side. So we start. Everyone who gets stopped for drunk driving gets put onto the list. A few years go by, the list starts to grow but people are still getting killed by drunk drivers.

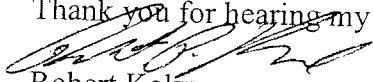
Someone in government has a great idea, lets propose a bill that puts additional restrictions on the "Drink and Drive" registry. Lets keep "those people" from going to new years eve parties because we know everyone drinks at those parties. Later lets propose and pass a bill restricting those people from living close to a party store or a bar to help them avoid the temptation. Now lets make the list public so every citizen knows who is on the list and have all the offenders pay to register themselves every 3 months and submit to a drug test to prove they have not been drinking. Maybe the peer pressure will help these people from drinking and driving. It can go on and on, just like it has with the Sex Offenders Registry.

In case you missed it in my analogy, EVERYONE who had been pulled over due to drunk driving was on the list. One time offenders, kids that were stupid and drank during the football game, professionals and leaders in our society, even lawmakers who did a little too much unwinding after a stressful week. Sure, we got a few alcoholics on the list too but now, with 40,000 people on the list how do we keep those that are really a threat on it and let the rest get on with their lives?!?

Representatives, I want to protect my three daughters, my granddaughter and the daughters of everyone. We need to keep an eye on the bad guys, I agree. Bill 6430 is not the way to do it. Bill 6430 may catch the bad guy after the fact but that is not protection, is it? Protection is keeping something from happening in the first place. We need to spend our energy and money on thinking of ways to protect our citizens. We also need to fix the Sex Registry for those who do not belong there and give our judges the responsibility to do what the Constitution says they must do...judge. Government was set up with checks and balances. When law prevents our judges from judging we all loose!

Please do not allow Bill 6430 from passing. This law is not helping our citizens but rather violating their rights.

Thank you for hearing my voice.



Robert Kokx